

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 9 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, and 11-13 are under consideration and have been allowed. Claim 9, the only rejected claim, has been cancelled. Allowance of the claims and application are respectfully requested.

CHANGES TO THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification has been reviewed in response to this Office Action. Changes have been made to the specification only to place it in preferred and better U.S. form for issuance. That is, a typographical error was noted in paragraph [0030]. This typographical error has been corrected. No new matter has been added.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

In the Office Action, at pages 3-11, numbered paragraph 5, claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Robinette (USPN 5,066,557; hereafter, Robinette) combined with Japanese Patent 03-10256 (hereafter, JP '256) as evidenced by the Japanese Patent Office English language abstract and the American Chemical Society abstract, Acc. No. 1991:438641, both describing JP '256; and (2) Yamanami (USPN 6,355,390; hereafter, Yamanami). The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated.

Claim 9 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Thus the rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Robinette (USPN 5,066,557) combined with Japanese Patent 03-10256 as evidenced by the Japanese Patent Office English language abstract and the American Chemical Society abstract, Acc. No. 1991:438641, both describing JP '256; and (2) Yamanami (USPN 6,355,390) is now moot.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS:

Claims 3, 4, and 11-13 were allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for her careful consideration and allowance of claims 3, 4, and 11-13.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding

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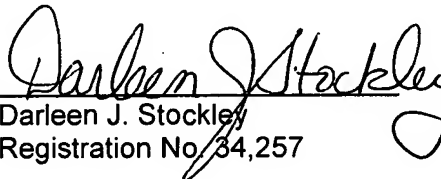
objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited. At a minimum, this Amendment should be entered at least for purposes of Appeal as it either clarifies and/or narrows the issues for consideration by the Board.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited and possibly concluded by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss any such remaining issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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